

NPS And Project Learning Tree

Facilitator: Scott Sticha

Panelists: Lori Iverson, Grand Teton NP

Jody Lyle, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Jody Lyle

Jody discussed the organization of a Project Learning Tree Burning Issues Workshops for educators and the public that was held in May 2002. Some of the specifics included

- Finding and reaching out to partners,
- Formatting the workshop and logistics to the goals and objectives that would apply to a local Burning Issues workshop.

She worked to tailor the Burning Issues Workshop to the SEKI area and brought in United States Geological Survey (USGS) staff to talk about invasive plants in the area, and addressed other issues including smoke and air quality issues. She partnered with Joshua Tree NP because they could talk about the differences in ecosystems and how this affected fire behavior. The workshop featured one day in the park and one day in town, the workshop was open to teachers, students as well as park staff. While the turnout was small, they had great response from the diverse and motivated participants

Lori Iverson

Lori conducted two Project Learning Tree workshops in January 2003. The first was a Burning Issues (fire ecology) workshop, while the second was in conjunction with a Ske-Cology workshop conducted at a local ski resort. To promote the workshop, Lori made fliers, sent e-mails, used word of mouth and phone solicitation to attract 22 participants. It was held at a local elementary school that made their computer room available. They used the Burning Issues CD that got rave reviews from participants. The Ske-Cology workshop intertwined fire and fire ecology into an environmental program for skiers and snowboarders. The group did classroom work and also skied to a number of waysides near the slopes that discussed wildlife habitat and natural resources. This was first time that ski ecology and fire ecology have been placed together, but all involved thought a good idea. The resort also offered a display case that the park can make use for an exhibit.